

IN THE SPECIFICATION

[0040] In an embodiment illustrated in a top view of a guard ring 400 in Figure 4, the guard ring 400 is formed as a continuous, closed ring. The geometry of the guard ring 400 may be formed similarly to the guard rings 162 and ~~604~~ 362 discussed with relation to the preceding Figures. In another embodiment, illustrated in top view in Figure 5A, a guard ring 500 is formed as a split ring, wherein first and second ends 502, 504 of the ring 500 are separated by a small gap 506. The size of the gap 506 will vary depending on the size of the guard ring 500. Figure 5A illustrates the guard ring 500 before installation. The sleeve compresses the guard ring 500 upon installation of the guard ring 500, closing the gap 506 as shown in Figure 5B.